

A way to come up with personality traits

For your character to get personality traits you can just question yourself “how would they react if-“ and go from there

That way you’ll imagine the type of character you want and write it down so that in different scenes they’ll react the same way

Like “ how would a monster react if someone calmly and casually talked to them after the monster failing a jump scare attempt “

Or

“Why is the monster trying to scare people in the first place”

Also also you need to keep in mind what’s cliche or uncreative so that you won’t make a monster that scares or kills for “fun” that’s one dimensional and to be frank with you isn’t the best idea

But if they have a strong goal and the fun or torturing and murdering is only a side dish to their final course you’d be writing a flat arch villain which would make that character hell of a lot more interesting because you could add personality traits to them that they’d use to achieve their goal

so now here's an entire story I came up with by starting with just that one idea

A Sad Monster

A monster who gets scared of other monsters after they freak her out gets laughed at for it as if nobody else would be afraid

When she gets pranked enough or bullied enough times or just gets mad thinking about it she goes to the surface at night to horrify and sometimes hurt people

To prove to herself that she isn't worthless, that she's just as scary as they are and because she wants to get rid of her built up rage

When her anger ends or scares someone to their death by a heart attack she stops and remembers that what she's doing is impulsive and immoral no better than what they were doing to her

The guilt of killing people unintentionally making her heart feel like it was melting out of her from the inside out

When she just scares people she beats herself up as a punishment for a week straight but when she kills someone she attaches chains to her body in her shower, swallows the keys used for the chains, runs the water to boiling hot and breaks the dial so that the only way she'd escape the pain of burning and not being able to breathe in the smoke being her repeatedly punching herself in the stomach to puke out the keys before they get digested in

her stomach acid and run out of the room to breathe in air once again trying not to touch anything so that the pain of the heat won't get any worse

Adding to the pain she'd have to pay for the broken shower and the amount of water she wasted but that to her would feel like nothing compared to killing a poor child who had a heart disorder because of her outrage

But her treating herself like an animal would make it worse and worse

Her feeling like one day she'll become numb to even her murders making her a psychopath unable to care about committing sins making her more evil than anyone she's met in her life

Her stressing out as if she had a ticking clock to solve the problem but it repeating over and over and over

But one night she would meet a person who she would talk to

Calm herself down

Stop herself from committing the crimes she had no control in doing

The boy in the story

He would be similar to the monster but slightly different

He'd get bullied for being a shortie in class so nobody would bother actually caring about his personality nor believes and thoughts

Even people half his size would make jokes about him within ear shot as if they had no idea he was hearing them

So he didn't really get any friends which he wanted to get

So since the only other people he could see was monsters at night in the dark by the shapes of his clothes he'd be scared a little by their expression before making a bond with them and talking to them

The first time they'd meet he'd be casually saying "you look pretty creepy but please don't waste your energy moving just to scare me, It's been... a rough day today and I can't take another prank, I'm sorry for our meeting being this dramatic I really am because normally I'd be more enthusiastic to see another face"

Her eyes would stretch in shock from his comment

Since her eyes glowed in the dark he saw it and realized he might be dreaming or finally met a real monster but he didn't know for sure even if he hoped to

When he'd realize she was a real monster by the sound of her punching herself for intending to scare him he'd calm her down saying

"Wait please don't hurt yourself If you don't want to be with me it's totally fine"

"No... I... I'm ugly"

"No you're not you're the prettiest monster I've seen yet... no offense Clera"

"Is someone here?"

"Oh she's there, she is a very talkative type but she doesn't seem to have a mouth for some reason"

He was pointing at his chair

"Well... I'm still stupid"

"Don't call yourself that, and even if you were I'm no better so don't beat yourself up about it because you at least know you have work to do unlike me who still doesn't know how stupid he actually is"

"I..."

She'd try to lie about the true reason for why she was beating herself up than tell the truth and every time she'd come up with a reason he would have a point

“Actually you remind me of Sam”

“Sam?”

“he used to scare me from my closet as a child but one night I actually got to talk to him for once and I realized he was very similar to me, lying to himself about things that were just not true because he got too used to making fun of himself in front of people so that he wouldn't be harmed by them

That was the first and last night I talked and met Sam because mom cleaned up my closet erasing him from existence

I still remember his long jaw, reflective white dot as an eye almost lost in the void of his bog eyes and a horrifying wide grin with humanoid teeth, his eyes used to look angry but when we first talked I saw his eyes turn from anger to sadness and then when we got to know each other to happiness

The smile was the same but the emotion was... different

I miss him"

the boy was relatable to me because not only did I make friends with night monsters in my head but also saw a monster look like it changed expression when I thought differently about him or her like being sad instead of creepy when I judge them

But in the story it could be that he hasn't met a real monster for the first time but for the second time but just not knowing that

I do think it would be an interesting story to add a character who'd be positive as a result for the kid's actions and have him impact her story as well but at the same time I haven't thought enough about it to think how or what that character would do so I don't know if it would be a good idea or not

Maybe it would be better to keep it lifeless, just clothes to make the death more permanent in his mind and it would make sense because why else wouldn't he return unless he disguised as one of his other friends or looked like them in the dark